

INDEX

People	2
National News	3
Opinion	4
Youth page	5
Community News	5
Arts Wednesday	7
Business	8
Classifieds	9

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City News

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INSIDE

Are we reliving the era of post Reconstruction?

page 4

TLC airs Killer Virus

page 7

Affirmative action is still alive and well

page 8

Newark's North Ward receives affordable housing units

NEWARK—In a move to continue the city's revitalization efforts, Mayor Sharpe James cut the ribbon for Grafton Court, a development of low-income housing units at 88-92 Grafton Avenue, in Newark's North Ward. The complex, which is an Urban Renewal Corporation project, consists of 14 units of two and three bedroom apartments for rent to low-income families.

"I am extremely happy that Newark families will be able to take advantage of these beautiful, new affordable housing units," James said. "I have always believed that no city can be revitalized unless its residents are provided with safe, clean and affordable housing," he added.

The development includes two three-bedroom apartments, which rent at \$650 a month, and 12 two-bedroom units, which rent at \$550 a month. Three apartments are handicapped accessible.

Amenities include water sprinklers in each room, hardwood floors throughout, individual heating and eight off-street parking spaces. The total cost of construction is approximately \$1.7 million, of which the City of Newark contributed \$260,000 in HOME funds and \$295,000 in Regional Contribution Agreement funds.

The architect for the project was David Abramson and Associates of Newark. The contractor was Reminz, Enterprise, Incorporated, also of Newark.

First Lady named Honorary Chair of UNICEF's anniversary committee

NEW YORK—First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has been appointed as Honorary National Chair of the U.S. Committee for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 50th anniversary committee. The first Lady, a long-time advocate for children and families, will help the committee to reinforce UNICEF's global mandate of a first call for children by celebrating the 50th anniversaries of both UNICEF and the U.S. Committee in 1996 and 1997.

"Mrs. Clinton's support will be a wonderful catalyst for advancing UNICEF's lifesaving efforts on behalf of children around the world," said Hugh Downs, co-host of ABC-TV's 20/20 and chair of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF.

Dr. Geraldine Calvert Baker, president and CEO of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, stated "The First Lady's commitment will help to underscore UNICEF's many victories for children worldwide, while also conveying the important challenges that must be addressed for children over the next half century and beyond."

See FIRST LADY page 6

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR YOUTH OFFENDERS



Graduating mentee Isaac Delgado, (right) accepts his certificate from program coordinator Rod Sanchez.

NEWARK—A select group of teenage first-time and minor offenders were given a choice: stand before a judge or participate in the New Directions Youth Project, a program created to enhance lives and steer teens away from negative activities.

Recently, approximately one dozen teenage "partners" joked, and talked about their experiences while celebrating during the project's graduation ceremonies.

According to Rod Sanchez, project coordinator, the teenagers are referred and accepted into the program via the court's Juvenile Conference Committee and must do some type of community service or participate actively with an organization.

The referred partners or mentees, ranging from 14 to 17 years old, are watched with local (residents) and college students who serve as mentors and role models during the 27-

week program. In addition to working toward a high school diploma or Graduate Equivalent Diploma (GED), the kids must participate in two New Directions sessions each week.

"They are learning self-esteem, cultural awareness, alternatives to violence, and conflict resolution. As they developed, they start to do community projects like paint murals, feed the homeless and plant gardens," said Sanchez.

Delmar Berry, a 17-year-old Newark resident and New Directions partner, described the sessions as educational. Partners were rewarded every other week for attending the sessions. The rewards gave some of the youth their first opportunity to hook a line and catch fish, to sleep under the stars during a camping trip, to see Broadway plays in action, and to visit Howard University.

"We're trying to give the kids

new directions in their lives. They're headed down this path where they're about to get into bigger trouble so we match them up with mentors, people from the community that have been through what they're going through but somehow made it and are doing something positive with their lives," Sanchez added.

Way Baily, director of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in Newark and New Directions funding source, pinpointed an urge to "give back to the community" as the "one common denominator" among mentors selected for the program.

"Our objective is to broaden horizons so that (mentees) can see that there are many alternatives to any situation," said Baily.

Nancy Dunell, parent of Director Howard University.

See NEW DIRECTIONS page 8

Congressman Payne distributes over \$200,000 in emergency funds

NEWARK—Congressman Donald M. Payne and representatives from the Emergency Food and Shelter program distributed \$238,000 in funds to Newark and Essex County at a news conference held at Newark Emergency Services for Families (NESF). The program was established by and receives funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Representatives from the program's local recipient organizations—The Salvation Army, Catholic Community Services, FOCUS, United Jewish Federation of MetroWest and NESF—accepted the checks.

"Although we associate FEMA most often with emergency assistance to victims of earthquakes and floods, disasters come to families in

many other forms as well," Congressman Payne explained. "The loss of a parent or child, or any number of everyday circumstances can push families to the brink of personal disaster."

During the news conference at NESF's Washington Street office, scenes from the city welfare building directly across on William Street caught the congressman's attention. At the office, welfare recipients waited outdoors in 90-degree heat to be fingerprinted for the new electronic finger-imaging system designed to prevent fraud.

Looking out the window, Congressman Payne made reference to recent government cuts that will affect those standing on the long line.

"This past week, the House Appropriations Committee approved a

bill that cut \$30 million from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program under FEMA. The measure also terminates 20 housing programs and makes deep cuts in the entire budget for the Department of Housing and Urban Development at a time when 600,000 men, women and children are homeless in this country each night," the congressman stated.

In addition, Congressman Payne said the House of Representatives, under the new leadership, also voted to end the school lunch and other child nutrition programs, including Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and replace them at a lower funding level with block grants.

"When supporters of these cuts are asked what will happen to that little girl or boy affected by them,

See EMERGENCY FUNDS page 10



Jeanette Page Hawkins, executive director, NESF, (left) accompanied by Congressman Donald Payne.

Photo by Donald Harby

NAACP urges young members to find guidance in history

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Dr. Roger Wilkins, professor of history and American culture at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., told NAACP Youth Convention Delegates that young blacks can better meet the challenges presented by the recent "re-emergence of racism" if they are armed with a knowledge of their own history.

Wilkins made his remarks at the Roy Wilkins Scholarship Luncheon, sponsored by Pepsi-Cola Company, at the 56th Annual NAACP Convention.

The nephew of the late NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins, Wilkins said history shows that government at all levels has worked to

limit opportunities for blacks for generations by giving racial preferences to whites. He encouraged young NAACP members to draw inspiration from the pioneering efforts of African-American heroes such as Harriet Tubman, A. Philip Randolph and Sojourner Truth.

Wilkins cited the widely-held belief among non-racist whites that America is a country where anyone who works hard can succeed.

"Many of these individuals saw the proof of this lies in the experience of their grandparents, who arrived as poor immigrants in the late 1800s or 1900s, worked hard, educated their children and watched their families succeed—all without ever owning

slaves or hurting black people," the professor stated.

But Wilkins pointed out the flaws in this argument, outlining the historical events that served to benefit immigrant whites while keeping blacks in what he called regional, occupational and economic parameters.

He said that in the "rotten soil of 1877"—known as the Tilden-Hayes Compromise—members of the House of Representatives, attempting to settle a closely-contested presidential election between Samuel J. Tilden and Rutherford B. Hayes, agreed to a compromise that sent Hayes to the White House.

Other parts of the agreement assured the North's control of national

industries while the South was to regain its agricultural prowess through low-income black laborers. The agreement took place 14 years after the emancipation of the slaves.

"This resulted," Wilkins said, "in northern industries welcoming European immigrants for factory work for generations and building a white working and middle class. When African-American migrants moved to northern cities and factory jobs earlier this century, they found themselves too late for the peak of America's industrial revolution."

Wilkins said that helping the poor, who still suffer because of historical inequities, must be "a pri-

ority" for the NAACP. He quoted Harriet Tubman's famous words, "I am not free until the least of my brothers and sisters is free."

Concluding his remarks, Wilkins encouraged the delegates to recognize the NAACP as "the strongest weapon in our arsenal" in the struggle against racism.

"As the nation's oldest and most powerful civil rights organization, the NAACP has a long and proud history of battling inequality," Wilkins said. But he said, "the organization's consistency now faces a new war that can be seen in the affirmative action, by cynical political forces across the nation."

UNCF passes \$1 billion mark in fund-raising for 1995

FAIRFAX, VA.—President/CEO of UNCF, William H. Gray, has announced that during fiscal year 1995, UNCF passed the \$1 billion mark in total funds raised. According to Gray, "We did it by adding another year of success to our annual and capital campaigns. Combined, these two campaigns raised \$390.4 million."

"CAMPAIGN 2000, Preparing Our Children for The Next Century's needs, reached \$233 million by the end of the year. We expect to pass our \$250 million goal early in the next fiscal year, but don't plan to stop as long as support continues," he continued.

Gray noted that the organization reached the billion dollar mark while continuing to keep costs at a record low of 15.85 percent, which includes 2.95 percent for administrative costs and 12.90 percent for fund raising.

This means that more dollars will benefit the students and schools directly.

The College Fund is providing help through an expanded mission that includes a new focus on program services and technical assistance. UNCF now administers more than 350 programs ranging from individual scholarships to collaborative projects with other minority and majority colleges.

Through technical assistance, it is helping its own 41 colleges grow stronger, providing services that range from information technology to financial planning advice.

"The work of today's College Fund—fund-raising, program services, and technical assistance—could not succeed without the support of a wide range of contributors.

We appreciate your ongoing interest and partnership in our important mission," said Gray.



President Clinton OKs religion in schools

WASHINGTON, DC.—In a major address to religious leaders, recently, President Bill Clinton unveiled an initiative that effectively encourages public school students the right to engage in religious activities during the school day. He directed Education Secretary Richard Riley to issue a document outlining what forms of religious expression are allowed by law and protected by the Constitution.

In his delivery, the President made it clear exactly what he believed the First Amendment was created for. "What we have to do is work together to help all Americans understand exactly what the First Amendment does."

"It protects freedom of religion by allowing students to pray, and it protects freedom of religion by preventing schools from telling them how and when and what to pray. The First Amendment keeps us all on common ground. We are allowed to believe and worship as we choose

without the government telling any of us what we can and cannot do," President Clinton stated.

In a series of remarks on the responsibility of citizenship and reaching common ground, the President talked about the need in America for greater tolerance and the ways to find common ground. He believes public schools should not be religion-free zones, but in his directive warned that efforts at coercion, harassment and teacher-led prayers are strictly forbidden by law. The President called for a partnership with our religious institutions.

"Don't you believe that if every kid in every difficult neighborhood in America were in a religious institution on the weekends, the synagogue on Saturday, a church on Sunday, a mosque on Friday, don't you really believe that the drug rate, the crime rate, the violence rate, the sense of self-destruction would go way down and the quality of the character of this

See RELIGION IN SCHOOLS page 10

PEOPLE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THRU AUGUST

PLAINFIELD—Artist in Action series every Tuesday at the Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For more info call 908-753-3506.

THRU SEPTEMBER

NEWARK—The Animal Kingdom exhibition at The Newark Public Library. For more info call 201-733-7745.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

PLAINFIELD—Conflict Resolution workshop at The United National Bank's Community Education Center at 10 a.m. For more info call 908-756-3500.

MOUNTAIN SIDE—The NJ Symphony Orchestra at Echo Lake Park at 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-527-4900 or 908-352-8410.

EAST ORANGE—Decorating Tips with Syntia 4 Syntia at East Orange High School at 4:15 p.m. For more info call 201-673-2193.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

HOBOKEN—Movies under the stars series features King Kong at Erie Lackawanna Plaza at 9 p.m. For more info call 201-420-2207.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

NEWARK—Family Theater with One Family One Planet, a musical celebration of our diverse world at the Newark Museum at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-596-5550.

CRANFORD—View The Perseids meteor shower at 8:30 p.m. at the Union County College's Sperry Observatory. For more info call 908-709-7520.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

BLOOMFIELD—Essex County 4-H Fair & Youth Festival at Brookdale Park. For more info call 201-688-5550 or 201-676-7807.

NEW YORK—Fix your own bike workshop, projects and bike wash at River Terrace Road in Hudson River Park from 2 to 5 p.m. for ages 2 and up. For more info call 212-267-9700.

AUGUST 12, 13

NREWORK—Tenth Annual Africa Newk Festival at Military Park from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more info and vending space call 201-642-0677.

BELVIDERE—"Jessey Fresh" Food and Wine Festival from noon to 6 p.m. at Mattajazzo Farms. For more info call 908-675-3872 or fax 908-475-3555.

THRU AUGUST 13

BROOKLYN—Batuga Fan Fair: An Aquatic Celebration at the Aquarium for Wildlife Conservation. For more info call 718-205-FISH.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

EAST ORANGE—East Orange Caribbean Expo at East Orange High School Annex at 6 p.m. For more info call 201-266-5147.

PLAINFIELD—Establishing and Maintaining Credit workshop at The United National Bank's Community Education

Center at 10 a.m. For more info call 908-756-3500.

THRU AUGUST 15

PLAINFIELD—Basic Literacy Tutoring Training Workshop on Tuesdays at the Plainfield Public Library from 6 to 9 p.m. For more info or to be a tutor call 908-756-7998.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

MOUNTAIN SIDE—A Reggae, Calypso Evening featuring Johnny Youth and The Verdict at Echo Lake Park at 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-527-4900 or 908-352-8410.

PLAINFIELD—Interviewing Techniques workshop at The United National Bank's Community Education Center at 10 a.m. For more info call 908-756-3500.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

HOBOKEN—Movies under the stars series features The Wizard of Oz (1938) at Erie Lackawanna Plaza at 9 p.m. For more info call 201-420-2207.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

EAST ORANGE—East Orange Teen Fest at Several Park from 3 to 9 p.m. For more info call 201-266-5147.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

NEW YORK—Walk through the rain forest program in Hudson River Park from 6 to 7 p.m. For more info call 212-267-9700.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

EAST ORANGE—East Orange Caribbean Parade and Carnival at East Orange High School gym from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more info call 201-266-5147.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21

WESTFIELD—Program on US government securities at Rutgers Cooperative Extension at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-654-9854.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

PATERSON—Reception for Hispanic poster exhibit "Imágenes Contra El Sida" (Images against AIDS) at the Paterson Public Library from 1 to 3 p.m. For more info call 201-384-0010.

AUGUST 26, 27

SOMERSET—"Antiques Weekend in Somerset" at the Garden State Exhibit Center from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more info call 201-384-0010.

THRU AUGUST 28

NEW YORK—Myths of American History: Beyond the Cherry Tree at the Fraunces Tavern Museum. For more info call 212-425-1778.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

FORTH MOUTH—Dinner to honor WWII Veterans at Ochs Hall at 5 p.m. For more info call 201-645-3488.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

MOUNTAIN SIDE—Circles Night featuring the Party Dolls at Echo Lake Park at 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-527-4900 or 908-352-8410.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

NEW YORK—Haunts on the Hudson at

Physician honored for gift to UMDNJ



Dr. Huerta Neals and his wife Antoinette in front of the vehicle that he donated to UMDNJ.

NEWARK—University Hospital, honored Dr. Huerta C. Neals, a pioneering New Jersey physician, for his gift of a mobile emergency command post to the hospital's Emergency Medical Services.

Neals, a prominent cardiologist who practiced in Jersey City over for 45 years, originally purchased the vehicle in 1972, had it outfitted as a mobile doctor's office and drove it to private homes and housing projects to serve his patients who could not travel. This "mobile practice" was a pioneering effort and paved the way for many similar programs since.

Neals was born in Fernandina,

FL, in 1914. He attended Morehouse College as an undergraduate (Class of 1936), before going on to Howard University Medical School. He did his postgraduate fellowship in cardiology at Harvard University's School of Medicine and then became the second black resident ever at the Jersey City Medical Center. He has lived and practiced in Jersey City since 1947.

The mobile doctor's office was refurbished and outfitted as a mobile command center by University Hospital Emergency Medical Services. It recently was used at the Lodi chemical plant explosion.

Lamyra Clarke receives President of the Year Award



Lamyra Clarke, AKA president of the year.

NEWARK—Lamyra D. Clarke, president of Beta Alpha Omega chapter, Newark of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. recently received the President of the Year Award at the 64th North Atlantic Regional Conference held in New York City. Clarke received the award for outstanding leadership and service to the chapter. She is the youngest president ever to head Beta Alpha Omega which is the oldest chapter in New Jersey.

Clarke is a System Analyst at Metropolitan Life Insurance and served as Activities Committee representative for the Information Systems Department where she coordinated quarterly workshops on various management topics. She has also worked as a "Take Your Daughter to Work Campaign" for her department.

Clarke was appointed by Wilma Riddle, North Atlantic Regional director as one of the two Cluster IV Coordinators and is one of the five Cluster IV members heading the 1996 North Atlantic Regional Conference. In addition to her membership with the sorority, Clarke is on the Board of Trustees, member of the Voices in Christ Choir, moderator of the Central Presbyterian Women's Group and serves on the audit committee at Central Presbyterian Church in Newark.

She is a 1986 graduate of Seton Hall University where she received a bachelor's in computer science and business administration. She received her master's in marketing and a certificate in international business while serving as president of Beta Alpha Omega.

DID YOU KNOW?

by Robert N. Taylor

... that there is absolutely no doubt about it—moderate drinking is good for you. Thirty-five different studies have now reached the same conclusion. Alcohol apparently has the power to increase HDL (good cholesterol) and thus works to reduce the risk of heart disease. The experts consider "moderate" drinking to be one to three drinks a day.

... that 38,000 Americans die each year as a result of gunshot wounds. No other country in the world—including those at war—has as many gun-related deaths as the U. S.

... that according to a recent study, the times of the day you are most likely to be hit by a car driven by a sleepy driver are 2 a.m., 6 a.m. and 4 p.m.

... that the nutritional key to combating heart disease and strokes appears to be folic acid and not any man-made drug. A British researcher reported, recently, that several studies show a deficiency of folic acid is responsible for up to 40 percent of all heart attacks and strokes. Where do you get folic acid? Answer: By eating fruits and vegetables.

... that according to a recent Gallop poll, 75 percent of whites surveyed felt O.J. Simpson was guilty of the double murder charges against him while only 25 percent of blacks felt he was guilty.

... that last year, Americans ate 606 million pounds of potato chips. The greatest number of potato chips are eaten in the west central and the southeast parts of the country.

... that this week's favorite quote comes from motivational speaker Les Brown, "Bad experiences can either make you bitter or better. It is up to you."

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NATION

National News at a glance

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION SHARPLY DIVIDES BLACKS & WHITES

According to *USA TODAY*, CNN poll, blacks and whites in America disagree sharply over the issue of affirmative action. The poll found 82 percent of blacks saying affirmative action programs should continue while 52 percent of whites said they should end. And recent court rulings suggest that many of the programs may be on their way out. President Clinton has drawn the praise of national black political leader Jesse Jackson by pledging to reform but not end affirmative action programs. Despite this high level support, the Republican dominated Congress appears headed in the opposite direction with many conservatives claiming the programs discriminate against whites, especially white males.

—WASHINGTON, DC

PROSECUTION PORTRAYS REYNOLDS AS SEX PREDATOR

Black Illinois Congressman Mel Reynolds was portrayed in a Chicago court room as a sexual predator who used the glamour of his office to entice a 16-year-old girl into a sexual relationship. The prosecution buttressed its case by playing tape recordings of sexually explicit conversations between Reynolds and the young woman. However, the prosecution's case is weakened by Beverly Heard, now 19, refusing to testify and has tried to retract statements made against Reynolds. Reynolds, 43, faces up to four years in prison if convicted of the charges against him. But even if found not guilty, his congressional career is expected to be severely damaged. —CHICAGO, ILL.

SOUTH AFRICA TO INVESTIGATE APARTHEID KILLINGS

During the decade of Apartheid in South Africa, thousands of blacks were tortured, killed or just "disappeared" while in police custody. Well, last week, President Nelson Mandela signed into law a bill authorizing a commission to investigate those killings and bring guilty partners to justice. However, in signing the bill, The President acknowledged it was unlikely that all the cases would ever be solved.

—JOHANNESBURG, SA

PETE WILSON COULD BE THE MOST RACIALLY DIVERSE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Every candidate running for the Republican Party's presidential nomination is a conservative with little history of supporting programs beneficial to blacks and other minorities. But among this group the one who appears to be running the most racially diverse campaign is California Governor Pete Wilson. Wilson is taking a hard line on four major issues and all four are racially tinged. His issues have become a campaign against affirmative action programs, a hard line against crime, which would result in increased numbers of low-income minorities going to jail, elimination of welfare which will have tremendous negative consequences for low-income, poor, minority women, and a reduction in immigration which will impact on the number of Hispanics and other non-whites who are allowed into America. —SAN DIEGO, CA

SINGLETON'S NEXT MOVIE IS THE ROSEWOOD STORY*

Popular black movie producer John Singleton says his next movie will be about Rosewood—a black Florida community near Gainesville which was destroyed by an angry white mob in 1923. The whites burned down the black community when they could not find a black man accused of accusing a white woman. Six blacks and two whites were killed during the fighting in which local police officials sided with the white mob. Last year, state lawmakers admitted that the government had failed to protect the blacks and awarded \$2 million to elderly black survivors of the Rosewood attack. Singleton has not indicated who will star in the movie.

—LOS ANGELES, CA

COMMENTARY

Celebrating 30 years of the Voting Rights Act of '65

by Don Fowler

Sunday, August 6, marked the 30th anniversary of the passage of the historic Voting Rights Act (VRA). But, there would be no celebration of this anniversary of the tremendous accomplishments of the African-American community had it not been for the man who made it all happen—President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

Millions of Americans have benefited from this momentous milestone enacted thirty years ago, but few realize how much President Johnson used the power of the presidency to advance the cause of civil rights.

After using all of the political resources at his disposal to ensure that Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (and Title VII, the specific provision that prohibited discrimination in employment based on race and sex), President Johnson still was not satisfied.

Countless demonstrations erupted in the south to protest rigid barriers imposed by local jurisdictions to prevent blacks from voting. Many of the frustrations felt by African Americans, at not being able to vote freely,

Gill sees dark future for New Jerseyans under Whitman economics

MONTCLAIR—Speaking before a conference of public employees union leaders from throughout the state, Assemblywoman Nita H. Gill warned that Governor Whitman's fiscal policies have put New Jersey on a collision course with disaster.

"This year's budget will spend more money than ever before, and it will lay the groundwork for deep fiscal problems in the years to come," said Gill.

Gill delivered her remarks on the state budget and her visions for the upcoming year at the opening of the Council-Union Annual Summer Institute in Mt. Airy. The conference was attended by over 200 leaders from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO (AFSCME).

Gill criticized the governor for breaking her promise to spare rank-and-file workers from job losses and instead target high-paid political appointees for layoffs.

Gill said approximately three out of every four of the nearly 900 state workers laid off by Gov. Whitman this year earned less than \$33,000, and nearly nine out of 10 earned less than \$50,000. For the state to realize any type of cost-savings, it must eliminate three lower paid employees for every one manager that it hires.

Africa urged to introduce satellite education

BULAWAYO, ZIMBABWE—To keep pace with their developed counterparts in technological development, African countries have been advised to introduce satellite distance education.

The suggestion was made in Bulawayo, southwestern Zimbabwe, by a South African educationist, Dr. Dawie de Villiers, who described that type of teaching as a cost-effective, production time-saving manpower development concept.

In a statement, de Villiers said satellite distance education was the only way African countries could compete with developed countries in keeping pace with technological development.

The South African was a guest at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair's "Scholarship Exhibition" this past July.

He said telecommunications technology was fast becoming essential in training methodology, given the increasing need for accelerated manpower development demanded by ever changing business cultures.

"Economic pressures demand that employees remain productive while at the same time continuously developing new and additional skills and knowledge which necessitates a policy of taking training to the employees instead of vice versa," said Dr. de Villiers.

came to a head in the march from Selma, Alabama. As the nation watched in horror, civil rights marchers crossing the Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma were viciously attacked.

The violence inflicted on the marchers on that historic trek to Montgomery on March 5, 1965, was a sight that many Americans would never forget. Neither would President Johnson.

One week later, a somber but determined President Johnson spoke before a televised joint session of the United States Congress on the civil rights crisis facing America and his legislative remedy for the situation. This was a special moment in history. I remember that night very well.

As I watched the President from my home in Columbia, South Carolina, I was actively working with leaders of the NAACP and the Southern Voter Education Project.

In his remarks, President Johnson said, "Many of the issues of civil rights

were very complex and most difficult. But about this there can be no argument. Every American citizen must have an equal right to vote. There is no reason which can excuse the denial of that right. Wednesday, I will send to Congress a law designed to eliminate illegal barriers to the right to vote."

The President then ended his moving speech by uttering a familiar refrain, "And we shall overcome." It was a difficult fight, but five months later, President Johnson invited civil rights leaders to the White House for what proved to be a significant turning point in the struggle for equal voting rights. The signing of the Voting Rights Bill.

At the ceremony, attended by Roy Wilkins of the NAACP; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. of SCLC; Whitney Young of the National Urban League; and leaders of both parties, President Johnson in a mo-

ment of great pride said, "Today is a triumph for freedom as huge as any victory that has ever been won on any battlefield."

Tompkins said that meant business. President Johnson announced that he had directed the US Attorney General to file lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of the poll tax in the states of Mississippi, Texas, Alabama, and Virginia. He also ordered the Justice Department to work all through the weekend to designate counties in these other states where experience showed that federal action was necessary.

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, in Washington, DC is a prominent think tank devoted to deciphering the political and economic progress of African Americans. Their research has proven that freedom at the polls has brought participatory democracy to millions of African Americans in the political. In

1965, prior to the passage of the VRA, there were about 300 African American elected officials. Today, there are 8,105 African American elected officials, including nine members of the United States Congress.

Like President Johnson, President Bill Clinton and the Democratic Party are fully committed to expanding opportunities for African Americans. With the passage of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, this President and this party have registered over four million new voters in the first half of 1995.

Democrats will continue to fight to increase the participation of African Americans in the political process so that they may use their voting rights to achieve their political and socioeconomic goals.

Don Fowler is chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

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EDITORIAL

Plainfield, East Orange and Jersey City... speak out!

Clearly the Newark, Plainfield, East Orange, and Jersey City communities like other urban cities are at major crossroads. Which way the cities go, up or down, will depend on the citizens, businesses, the city councils and mayors. We invite you to call us at *City News* and let us know what you want to say to the mayor or council in your city. We will get the word out and ask your question.

Call 908-754-6202, the I WANT TO ASK LINE and tell us what you want to ask.

ALONG THE COLOR LINE

Justice now for Mumia Abu-Jamal

Dr. Manning Marable

The American criminal justice system is, in part, an institution designed to perpetuate black oppression. It is no accident, for example, that nearly one-quarter of all young black men between the ages of 18 and 29 years old in the U.S. are either in prison, on probation or parole, or awaiting trial. It is no accident that African Americans and Latinos, convicted of crimes, routinely receive much longer prison sentences than whites who commit the same crimes.

But the outstanding element of coercion within the system of legal punishment remains the death penalty. As criminal justice scholar, David Baldus, observed, several years ago, any black person is 4.3 times more likely to be given the death penalty than any white person under the same circumstances.

Since 1900, thousands of African Americans have been either executed by prison officials, police or lynched by white mobs, all for the defense of white supremacy. In the past century, the total number of white Americans executed for either murder of a black person, or the rape of black women, is less than five.

It is in this repressive context that we must consider the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal. An outstanding African American radio journalist and political commentator, Jamal established a strong following in Philadelphia in the early 1980s. His reports documenting widespread police brutality and political repression in that city were broadcast nationally on National Public Radio and other networks. In 1981, Jamal was arrested and charged with the killing of a police officer, Daniel Faulkner. Jamal had been shot by the police at the scene and then was beaten in custody.

The prosecution's case against him was flimsy but strong. Four eyewitnesses described a person fleeing the murder scene; Jamal had been severely injured that physically he could not have run. Ballistics experts failed to match Jamal's legally-registered gun to any bullets at the scene or in the officer's body. One eyewitness at the trial could not identify Jamal as the shooter, and was ordered by the prosecution not to talk

with the defense. One trial witness was to be harassed and hounded by the police and prosecutors that he left Philadelphia prior to the trial; he had reported that Jamal was not involved in the crime, and that the real shooter had actually fled the scene.

None of the evidence meant anything to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. All that mattered was that a police officer was dead, and that a black man had to be executed for the crime, whether he was personally innocent or guilty. During the jury selection process, Jamal was given an incompetent public defender. The prosecution challenged and removed eleven black jurors without cause. As a result, all but two jurors were white. Supervising the trial was Judge Albert Sabo, who had sentenced more people to death than any other judge in the United States.

Of the 31 individuals sentenced to be executed by Judge Sabo, all but two were people of color. The prosecution was eager permitted to interrogate Jamal about his membership as a teenager in the Black Panther Party. Predictably, the jury convicted Jamal, and Judge Sabo ordered him to die.

In his years on death row in Pennsylvania, Mumia Abu-Jamal has refused to be silenced. His political analysis and commentaries have been published in a new book, *Live From Death Row*. But on June 2 of this year, the Governor of Pennsylvania signed Jamal's death warrant. If nothing is done to halt this legal process, Jamal will be executed on August 17, 1995.

Intellectuals, public officials, journalists and hundreds of prominent public leaders nationally and internationally have rallied in support of Mumia Abu-Jamal. In the struggle to stop the execution, we are doing more than just saving the life of an innocent man.

We strike a blow for freedom against a criminal justice system pervaded with racism. We take a stand for justice against a legal system which punishes thousands of black and Latino young men for crimes while white men are permitted to go free. By fighting to save the life of Mumia Abu-Jamal, we struggle for a truly just and democratic society.

by Connie Woodruff

On more than one occasion, many of us have heard Mayor Sharpe James say he will run for re-election 20 years hence.

So, when a well connected Bergen County political activist suggested Newark's mayor be persuaded to change his mind, I was not surprised. However, I was a little taken aback that someone not remotely involved in Newark politics is so convinced James may go for another term and is willing to give odds if forces foolish enough to venture a guess.

Then, there is the other rumor involving Newark's dynamic chief executive. He could be on one of President Clinton's short lists for an appointment to a high profile job in the administration as part of the president's strategy for winning re-election support in the cities where Mayor James has many friends and supporters (among Democrats and Republicans).

In the meantime, more and more voters are beginning to buy into the possibility of Newark West Ward

Councilman and State Senator Ronald Rice as the front-runner to succeed Mayor James.

Running a close second, in recognition and popularity (for the moment), is Essex County Prosecutor Clifford Muro, named to be a favorite with the business community. Muro also has the advantage of support from the Hispanic and Italian communities. Whether or not that includes councilmen like Tony Carino, Hank Martinez or Luis Quintana and their supporters is questionable.

Since Newark's mayor-council election is two years in the future, the possibility of a "dark horse" cannot be ruled out. And there are some who believe that Councilman-at-large Donald Tucker will definitely be a force to be reckoned with as well as a possible female candidate. The names that pop up with regularity include Dr. Colleen Walton, a rabid community activist, Barbara Bell, president of the Amelior Foundation and Councilwoman Mildred Crump.

Speaking of Newark City Hall,

by Rev. Reginald Jackson & Raiford Wheeler

In this second column dealing with affirmative action, let us take a closer look at the claim that affirmative action should be terminated because it places an unfair stigma on its beneficiaries. How often now have we heard minorities say that everybody feels they got a contract, a job or college not because they were qualified, but only because they were a minority?

There is no doubt that this insinuation is true and that it is painful. Yet, this is just one more example of the decision that is very much at play in the whole debate about affirmative action. Let's look at it. Why is it that no one says that women are less qualified but that they only got the job by a contract because of affirmative action? And let us remind you that the biggest beneficiaries of affirmative action have been white women. Again it's the race factor—minorities couldn't possibly be as good or qual-

ified as whites.

Sen. Bob Dole, the majority leader and Republican presidential candidate, often says that with affirmative action, it's like employers or schools are putting a thumb on the scale to give minorities an advantage. He says this is unfair because everybody should start off on a level playing field.

Well, is it the good senator saying that without affirmative action minorities and women are on a level playing field? If so, then there are such glaring examples that it is not. For example, why then are 95 percent of the top executive positions in this country filled by white males?

Why then, when most of the major corporations in this country call for management meetings the room is filled mostly with white males? A friend who is a manager in a major corporation told me that just two weeks ago a meeting of all managers was held and of almost 80 managers, there was not a single minority or woman. Why then, are women who are doing the

same job as men making almost 25 percent less salary and minorities even less?

Blacks such as Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and businessman Ward Connerly say affirmative action should end because of the stigma recipients are put under that they only got into college, got the job or got the contract because they are minorities and were less qualified. May we suggest to Justice Thomas and businessman Connerly that if they had not been for affirmative action, it would not have mattered how smart or how good a businessman you were, neither of you would have made it.

If you're looking for Danny Blue,

Connerly and so many others would not be in the positions they are in now and have the opportunities afforded them.

As for the insinuation that minorities are not qualified and are only able to get into school, the job or the contract because of affirmative action—who cares? Many claimed that Clarence Thomas was not the best qualified candidate for the Supreme Court, but he did not request that his name be withdrawn from consideration because of it.

Minorities and women who are qualified, prepared and able, should seek every opportunity provided for them and not apologize for it, be intimidated by insinuations that they are less qualified or by stigmas attached to them.

After all, do you think all those exclusive white male executives and managers really think that they are the best qualified person holding their positions? Be your best and do your best and God has a way of taking care of the rest.

Affirmative action is still needed

by Rev. Reginald Jackson & Raiford Wheeler

As the recent rulings of the Supreme court have shown, the Republicans continue to execute their contract on America, a need to analyze the situation of black people in America is ever present.

Are black people entering the history of post Reconstruction? As history that provided some sense of leveling the playing field of opportunity are erased and new obstacles to advancement are placed in our way? Are black people entering a new era of Jim Crow that characterized our predicament in America from 1877 until the Brown decision in 1954? In analyzing this comparison to the past, a look at Reconstruction is in order.

During Reconstruction, the period after the Civil War until about 1877, the Freedmen's Bureau was established by Congress and charged with the responsibility of setting up

schools, finding and selling land, and protecting the rights and physical safety of blacks. The 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments provided for the establishment of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Essentially, the 13th Amendment freed blacks from slavery, the 14th gave them citizenship and the 15th gave them the right to vote. Congress also passed Civil Rights Acts in 1866, 1875 and 1871. These laws provided for equal rights, equal provisions and more protection for blacks. In 1871, Congress would also pass the Enforcement Act which outlawed certain terrorist societies such as the Ku Klux Klan.

Reconstruction also provided political gains for black people. Twenty-two black people served in Congress during Reconstruction; two in the senate and 20 in the House of Representatives. There were several black governors and lieutenant governors throughout the south. Many blacks also held positions as prosecu-

tors and judges in some southern states. In education, blacks found increased opportunities as students and educators. Most of the present black colleges and universities were founded by the Freedmen's Bureau during the Reconstruction period.

Reconstruction, however, began to erode almost from its inception. Blacks still had little economic opportunity and many were left on the right back on the plantation that they had left, only this time they were semi-slaves or sharecroppers. Also, white resentment of government action and a racist mentality attributed to an increase in violence on blacks.

When federal forces were removed in 1877 due to a compromise with the Southern Legislatures and the new president elect Rutherford Hayes, blacks were left at the mercy of racist southerners. The Supreme Court dealt the fatal blow to Reconstruction in 1896 with the ruling of *Plessy vs. Ferguson* which declared the doctrine of "Separate but Equal" constitutional. An era of Jim Crow, which was a new improved version of the Black Codes, began to take over and blacks were reduced to second class citizens. All gains that blacks had achieved during Reconstruction were eliminated.

In comparing our current situation with Reconstruction, one needs to be a historian to see the parallels. Indeed, blacks made gains in the 60s with the passing of the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act, as well as the numerous opportunities that were created and are counted less people who struggled during that period. Although the glass ceiling in corporate America was not broken, black people began to bump their heads on it in increasing numbers.

In the 70s, 80s and 90s, partially due to affirmative action policies, more black men and women were and are able to break the white-only prerogative of corporate America, with some achieving prominent positions. Even though many blacks remain in abject poverty, a new middle class of blacks has emerged,

more economically privileged than the other generations. Politically, blacks have more mayors and political office holders across the country than ever before.

However, today, we risk losing all of these gains. With last term's Supreme Court decisions, black people stand to lose many of their representatives in Washington, due to the declared "unconstitutional" of racial redistricting. Affirmative action is on its way out as the Supreme Court hints that it too is unconstitutional and as the Republicans create legislation to stop the practice.

As the gains that began to dismantle the practice in its schools, the gains that have been made are eroding and black people face a period where all branches of government will be dominated by the same conservative mindsets.

In essence, black people stand to face a time that will be worse than the period of Jim Crow.

First, many problems that face our communities today are present back in the 20s and 30s, such as the enormous violence in our communities and the breakup black families. Second, many blacks have become firmly entrenched in middle class America and have become complacent and ambivalent about black struggle.

Finally, and most importantly, many of the gains that have been made in the past years have been substantial, or have not affected the masses of black people. For example, although many major cities have black mayors, the condition of black people in those cities becomes worse as black mayors enforce white agendas.

History is said to repeat itself for those who do not learn its lessons. Black people are allowed to a course to repeat history if they lack of information are induced to remain prevalent in our communities. If the erasing of our progress is not met with substantial and long term resistance, firmly across of our people in our communities, across class citizenship, semi-slave status, and genocide may be our future.

Democracy and majority preference voting

by Robert Richie

Many Americans are fed up with voting for the lesser of two evils. They are either not voting, or looking for a third party alternative. But, as a

first step, they would do well to try to change the rules of our political game, which usually keeps voters from taking independent candidates seriously.

Proportional representation

would be a good reform. Another simpler change would be to institute "majority preference voting," which is the system used to elect the Australian parliament and the Irish president. Majority preference voting (MPV) could be adopted by states for all elections, from state legislatures to presidential elections.

With MPV, our politics would take a strong step toward what democracy should be all about: majority rule, giving voters with real choices, encouraging debate on issues and building coalitions among people.

Consider the presidential elections. President Clinton has frustrated several base constituencies of the Democratic Party: labor, African Americans, environmentalists and others. There is an understandable fear that with Clinton at the head of the ticket in 1996 these people would stay at home, and Democrats would have no chance to retake Congress.

If Jesse Jackson were to run for president in the general election we know that these voters would have a reason to vote. But, many Democrats

fear that a Jackson candidacy could "split the vote" and allow a Republican to win.

Here is why MPV would eliminate that fear: MPV would allow voters to rank candidates in order of preference rather than simply marking an "X" for one candidate. This simple provision for "voter literacy and choice" would allow for a different method of tabulating results. The candidate with the most first-place votes would not automatically win (as they would under the present system). Instead, a candidate would need a 50 percent-plus-1 majority to win. Such a winning majority would also provide a mandate to govern.

If no candidate were to obtain a majority of first-place votes, then the last-place candidate would be defeated, and—just as if there were a run-off election—the candidate for that candidate would be transferred to the next candidate listed on these ballots. This process of transferring ballots from last-place candidates would continue until one candidate remained.

See DEMOCRACY VOTING/page 10

CITY NEWS

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City News

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

AUGUST 8 - 13

PLAINFIELD—Eleventh annual Holy Convocation "Focus on Glory" nightly services with guest keynote speakers at 7:30 p.m. at St. Rose of Sharon Community church. For more info call 908-757-6356.

AUGUST 11, 12

PLAINFIELD—The Calvary Baptist Church Festival Mart with live entertainment, food, games, rides, vendors, and more. Call 908-561-6429.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

PLAINFIELD—Eleventh annual Holy Convocation "Focus on Glory" at 2 p.m. with keynote speaker Bishop Herbert L. Bright at the St. Rose of Sharon Community church. Call 908-757-6356.

East Orange—"An Afternoon of Gospel" at Sovereign Park from 3 to 7 p.m. For more info call 201-286-5431.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

East Orange—Afternoon of Gospel Music at Sovereign Park from 3 to 7 p.m. For more info call 201-286-5431 or 5123.

HEALTH CALENDAR

THRU AUGUST

NEWARK—"CPR For Health Professionals" course at Saint Michael's Medical Center. Call 201-877-5094.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

East Orange—Red Cross CPR certification days at 9 a.m. at the Red Cross, 106 Washington St. For more info call 201-676-0800.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

VCR ALERT—Saint Barnabas Health Care System's Senior Health Program panel discussion airs on Comcast Cablevision TV-3 at 2 p.m.

AUGUST 14, 16

East Orange—Red Cross Community CPR course at 9 a.m. at the Red Cross, 106 Washington St. For more info call 201-676-0800.

AUGUST 15, 17

East Orange—Red Cross Community First Aid & Safety course at 9:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, 106 Washington St. For more info call 201-676-0800.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

Westfield—Food Safety: Preserving Your Harvest program at Rutgers Cooperative Extension from 1 to 3 p.m. For more info call 908-654-9854.

East Orange tries to 'strike-out' graffiti

EAST ORANGE—The city of East Orange has announced the formation of the "Anti-Graffiti Strike Force" in an effort to rid the city of graffiti. The Strike Force consists of members of business groups, civic, health and religious organizations, public safety groups, federal, state and local government and the East Orange school system.

More than 35 representatives from various organizations including NJ Transit, the East Orange Chamber of Commerce, the Muslim Community Development Association and others were present at the first planning meeting of the "Strike Force" last week.

"Graffiti has become a nuisance and an eyesore in our community," said East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper.

"It is our job, each of us to take

measures to stop graffiti, to enact legislation that will penalize graffiti artists, to look at alternatives and to be pro-active in stopping the spreading of graffiti in neighborhoods throughout our city," he continued.

Mayor Cooper was joined at the press conference by members of the City Council and Chairman Mark L. Scotland who said, "The problem of graffiti in East Orange is a problem we all share. I pledge the cooperation and assistance of the City Council to rid our community of graffiti." He continued, "In order for this initiative to be successful, we must come together."

The proposed Anti-Graffiti Ordinance, which was created by the Oval Block Association, must still be reviewed by the Law and Legislation Committee.

Also in attendance was Assem-

blyman LeRoy J. Jones, Jr., who has been meeting with law and public safety officials in an effort to develop legislation to address the issue of graffiti throughout the state.

The Mayor commended youth artist Garnette R. Campbell, who shared his experiences as an artist as well as his recommendations for alternatives for youth and graffiti artists.

"We want to spread the word that the 'Anti-Graffiti Strike Force' is organized and stands ready to change the 'look' of East Orange. Together we will 'deter' our community, together we will take it back," said the mayor.

For more information about the Anti-Graffiti Strike Force call the Clean and Green Center at 201-266-1021.



Pictured from left to right are Councilman Jimmy Small; Council Chair Mark L. Scotland; Councilman Clinton Williams; Councilman Phillip Thigpen (rear); Garnett Campbell, Anti-Graffiti Strike Force youth member; Councilwoman Beverly K. Williams (rear); and East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper standing next to Strike Force logo.

Photo courtesy of the city of East Orange.

Free immunizations available for children

NEWARK—United Children's Hospital has offered to provide free immunization to children at several of its Newark locations.

Children will be at high risk for disease if they are not immunized, so parents are encouraged to take advantage of this offer before the school year begins.

Free child immunizations will be available at the following locations: **Thursday, August 10 and August 17, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at the Alberta

Bey Health Center, Chancellor Avenue.

Friday, August 25, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Clinton Avenue, and **1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** at the United Healthcare System Pediatric Continuity Clinic, South 9th Street.

Monday, August 28, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at United Healthcare System Pediatric Continuity Clinic, 15 South 9th Street.

By the age of seven, your child should have had four oral polio vac-

cines, five DTP shots (for diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis), four HB vaccines (for a certain type of influenza) and three vaccines against Hepatitis B. Also by this age, children should now have two measles, mumps and rubella vaccines. The new chicken pox vaccine (varicella vaccine) is also offered to anyone over the age of 12 months.

For additional information about United services or to obtain a physician referral call HealthSource at 1-800-637-NURSE.

Volunteers needed for rape center

WESTFIELD—The Union County Rape Crisis Center in Westfield will be holding its annual fall training for volunteers beginning September 26.

Individuals will receive 40 hours of training dealing with the many areas of sexual assault, trauma reactions of survivors and family members, legal and medical aspects and related areas. Volunteers may also work on the Speakers Bureau or distribute information to the community.

Crisis intervention workers on

the hotline may also provide emotional support or accompany a client to the hospital or through the court process. "The volunteers for the county's Rape Crisis Center do more than answer a phone," said county manager Ann Baran.

"The emotional support they give to the victims of sexual assault has a value which is beyond measuring. I hope that we are fortunate in getting more volunteers of the caliber of the ones who are volunteering now," Baran continued.

The center provides services

which include: individual and group counseling, a 24-hour hotline, a speakers bureau, in-service training to professional personnel, law enforcement and mental health professionals, consultation to professionals working with survivors and information and referral.

All services are free and confidential. Individuals interested in becoming a volunteer may contact the Rape Crisis Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for an interview. For more information call 908-233-7273.

Family Fun Safety Day

NEW BRUNSWICK—Many families are expected to join in the festivities of Family Fun Safety Day at Joyce Kilmer Park on Saturday, August 12 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The free program will provide bilingual presentations on first aid, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect. Child and traffic safety and fire prevention demonstrations will also be provided. Family Fun Safety Day will include activities for music lovers, a bicycle rodeo, raffles, food and a special appearance by McGruff the Crime Dog. This program is sponsored by Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Community Health Promotion Program and New Brunswick Police Community Partnership Program.

First Lady

Continued from page 1

young."

In her role as honorary chair, Mrs. Clinton will participate in a series of events over the next two years in commemoration of the silver anniversary. She will also serve as spokesperson for the Committee among the media, NGO groups, donors, volunteers and other groups who provide crucial support for the organization's work on behalf of the world's children.

New directions

Continued from page 1

tions participant Yarnett Dunell, said she has witnessed an improvement in her son's attitude and his ability to communicate with others.

Baily also stressed the importance and the positive impact that parent and family involvement has on mentees. However, not every mentee has the family support.

"When I started this program, I thought there was no hope for me. I was raising myself. I live by myself and I don't have any parents," said 17-year-old Isaac Delgado. We (partners in New Directions) don't relate as mentor and mentee. We relate as family."

In addition, Delgado talked about a "strong bond" that developed in six months between him and his "brother" Carlos Vega, a New Directions

Plainfield Action Services provides school supplies

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Action Services (PAC) is hosting its Fourth Annual "Back-To-School Program." Last year's program was able to provide over 500 Plainfield students with much-needed school supplies and clothing.

This year's project has again attracted a newly big Plainfield crowd. Stone Square Lodge #38, Prince Hall Affiliate/Free and Accepted Masons (PFA &AM), which will be contributing bookbags to PAC's "Back-To-School" activity.

Stone Square Lodge #38, as well as other contributions generously donated, will be distributed to program participants on August 28 to August 31, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (closed between 1 p.m.-2 p.m.) each day at Latimore Building on Watchung Avenue.

PAC will continue to take school supply donations until August 25. Organizations wishing to donate should contact Betty Blake at 908-753-1518.

Protect yourself from carbon monoxide

NEWARK—Is the air inside your home safe to breathe? You may be aware that carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas, can come from motor vehicle emissions. What you may not know is that carbon monoxide can collect inside your home and poison the air you breathe.

Carbon monoxide is caused by incomplete combustion of a fuel such as oil, gas, kerosene or even wood! Besides motor vehicle exhaust, carbon monoxide can come from any fuel burning appliance in your home. It can originate from such places as a clogged chimney, a portable heater, a fireplace, a gas clothes dryer, kitchen appliances or an oil or gas furnace. Without adequate ventilation, carbon monoxide can become trapped in your home.

Unfortunately, carbon monoxide has no color, smell or taste. It is difficult to detect. A carbon monoxide detector is the only way to tell if this poisonous gas is in the air you breathe. A carbon monoxide detector, a device similar to a smoke detector, can measure the amount of carbon monoxide in the air. Carbon mon-

oxide is measured in parts per million (ppm). According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), a healthy adult can withstand a maximum concentration of 35 ppm of carbon monoxide in an eight hour period.

At low levels, you feel symptoms such as headache, nausea, dizziness and fatigue/symptoms similar to the flu. At higher levels, carbon monoxide can cause brain damage, coma or even death.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, carbon monoxide is the leading cause of fatal poisoning in the United States. Although anyone is susceptible to carbon monoxide poisoning, small children, senior citizens or individuals with heart or respiratory problems are at greater risk.

Carbon monoxide detectors can be an important device for your home safety. For information on purchasing carbon monoxide detectors, call PSE&C at 1-800-246-3609, Monday through Friday.

Information provided by Public Service Energy & Gas

Bradley requests details on proposed Medicare, Medicaid cuts

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator

Bill Bradley has presented a letter to Majority Leader Robert Dole requesting that the Republicans release specific details on their proposed Medicare and Medicaid cuts before the Senate breaks for the August recess.

"We share our constituents' concerns because we are not certain how the cuts will specifically affect senior citizens, children, working families with retired parents and health care providers such as physicians and hospitals," Bradley wrote in the letter, which he co-signed with 23 other

Senators.

The letter refers to Dole's intention to wait until September to release details about how the Republicans proposed to achieve \$270 billion in Medicare and \$182 billion in Medicaid cuts.

"A lot of people are going to be hurt if there are extensive cuts to Medicare and Medicaid programs," said Bradley. "It would be extremely unfair to all involved if decisions are made without the opportunity to engage in a substantive dialogue with those affected."



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- Souls of Integrity • Final Call • The Inspirational Heart, Mind, & Soul Youth Choir
- Youth Ensemble of Saint Deliverance Tabernacle • Bethel Pentecostal Church Choir
- Irvington High School Gospel Choir • Redeemed • Friendship Inspirational Choir

Since 1984, McDonald's GospelFest has made a name for itself in the African-American community as a celebration of gospel music. And this year's event brought out some of the area's most talented groups and choirs. To all the groups, choirs and churches

who participated in GospelFest '95 — thank you.

To all the winners — congratulations! Your music will inspire us for years to come. And special thanks to all of you — our customers. Your continuing support has helped make GospelFest a tradition that will live on.

McDONALD'S GOSPELFEST '95

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ARTZ WEDNESDAY

Dangerous Minds

BILLBOARD

THRU SUMMER:

NEW YORK—Skate under the stars every Saturday night from 10 p.m. at Central Park. For more info call 212-687-1775.

THRU SEPTEMBER 14

NEW YORK—Jazz at Liberty Evening (jazz) Music Cruises depart at 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. For more info call 212-630-0833.

AUGUST 4-12

NEW YORK—Caramoor Music Festival on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. For more info call 914-232-6035.

AUGUST 9, 23

NEWARK—Jazz in Military Park, co-sponsored by WBGO JAZZ 28 from 10 to 9 p.m. For more info call 201-733-6454.

THRU AUGUST 10

NEW YORK—"Blaxplosion, Baby!" a 33-min retrospective of the black action pictures of the early '70s at the Film Forum 2. For more info call 212-727-8110.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

NEW YORK—The Five Satins at Brooklyn Academy of Music at noon and 1 p.m. For more info call 718-638-4129.

NEW YORK—KISS FM classic soul dance party at S.O.B.'s at 5 p.m. Showtime at 8 p.m. For more info call 212-243-4840.

HOLLYWOOD, CA—Based on a real life story, *Dangerous Minds* stars acclaimed actress Michelle Pfeiffer as former Marine LouAnne Johnson, who leaves an officer's commission and a nine-year military career to pursue her dream of becoming an English teacher. But while earning her credentials at a Northern California high school, she is assigned to a group of students who change her life forever, as she changes theirs.

Although each of her charges exhibits a seemingly impenetrable

facade, these kids are desperate to connect with someone who cares about them. However, life has already taught them to trust no one and count on nothing.

As their new instructor, the feisty Ms. Johnson defies all the rules, creates her own curriculum and instructs this class of tough, inner-city teenagers from college-level texts.

Frustrated that their students, whose standardized test scores range from average to excellent, have come to accept failure as a way of life, she

cojoles and tricks them, even bribes them, into learning. More important, she loves them and helps them to believe in themselves, in their spirit and in their potential.

One teacher's account of the education crisis in America, and her effort to make a difference, *Dangerous Minds* is a Hollywood Pictures presentation of a Don Simpson/Jerry Bruckheimer production. The screenplay is based upon the book *My Posse Don't Do Homework* by LouAnne Johnson.



Rachelle Ferrell and George Duke at Club Bené



Rachelle Ferrell



George Duke

SOUTH AMBOY—Rachelle Ferrell and George Duke will be appearing in concert at the Club Bené Dinner Theatre on Sunday, August 13 for one night only. On this one evening they will perform shows at 5:30 and 9:30 p.m. with optional dinners being served at 4 and 8 p.m.

Both artists are touring in support of their latest projects. With Ferrell it's *First Instrument*, a more straight ahead jazz album which was originally released in Japan in 1990, while her first U.S. release self titled was released in 1992 and still holds a place on the R&B charts.

The Master, George Duke, is once again topping the jazz charts with his Warner Brothers release of *Illusions*. This LP showcases an array of melodic moods and lyrical musings. Personal and powerful, it is a fitting sequel to *Snapshot*. For more information or to reserve for this very special concert call Club Bené at 908-727-3000.

See Bookworm and
The Afrocentric Kids—page 5



also appearing:
SLAM ALLEN BLUES BAND
ROADSIDE LOUIE
and **THE DUSTERS**
and many more

Sunday, August 27, 1995

at
Henry Douglas Post #58
American Legion
151 West Forest Ave., Englewood, NJ
Show starts 5 p.m. - until

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(201) 994-0558
CHRIS CUTTING CORNER
380 FIRST ST., HACKENSACK, NJ
(201) 487-9420
BEN'S BARBER SHOP
(201) 558-2298



Big Jack Johnson won album of the year and just returned from a European Tour.

Don't miss this exciting evening. Come listen to top name entertainers sing the blues at the Down Home Blues Show. Tickets are \$15.00 and \$17.00 at the door.

For tickets or information call:
AMERICAN LEGION
201-894-9295 or
JC'S LOUNGE
908-755-8114 (Bus to show)

*To enter drawing: (Total tickets to be raffled—8) Send your name, address & prize number to City News Down Home Blues P.O. Box 181 Plainfield NJ 07061

Summer is all good on HBO

NEW YORK—In one of the most comprehensive targeted programming and marketing promotions in cable history, Home Box Office (HBO) has a campaign that supports an exciting August roster of original programs geared to African Americans. HBO's *This Summer It's All Good* campaign reinforces the company's commitment of offering programs of interest to its African-American audience throughout the year.

HBO's August slate centers around HBO Pictures' presentation of Laurence Fishburne in *The Tuskegee Army* airing August 26, the dramatic and heroic WWII history of the first squadron of African-American combat fighter pilots. To create awareness of African-American contributions to U.S. history.

HBO and cable operators will team up for a series of community screenings in key markets and will distribute commemorative picture books with original *Tuskegee* photos and scenes from the film.

Also included in the diverse array of August programming showcasing black talent:

Boxing doubleheader World Championship Boxing: Pernell Whitaker vs. Gary Jacobs and Ike Quartey vs. Andrew Murray airing August 26 and comedy specials *HBO Comedy Hour: Hazzle* on August 29. Plus *20 Years of Comedy* on HBO on August 12.

TLC airs Killer Virus



From Biblical plagues to the Black Death, to the 1918 Influenza epidemic, viruses have been a constant nemesis of humanity. On Wednesday, August 16, at 9 p.m., The Learning Channel presents *Killer Virus*, a world television premiere taking viewers into villages and cities around the world to witness the presence and impact of these invisible yet deadly life forms. The program examines the history of viruses and features recently filmed footage from outbreak sites and never-before-seen interviews with survivors. Pictured, Zairian Red Cross workers transport an elderly woman believed to have the Ebola Virus.

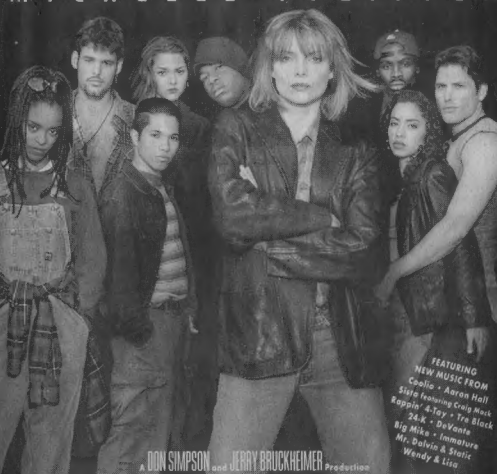
Photo by Jean-Marie Boujou/Reuters/Bettman.

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MICHELLE PFEIFFER



DANGEROUS MINDS

HOLLYWOOD PICTURES presents a DON SIMPSON and JERRY BRUCKHEIMER Production
in association with VIA ROSA PRODUCTIONS MICHELLE PFEIFFER "DANGEROUS MINDS" GEORGE DUNLAP
Executive: SANDRA KAHN, LUCAS FOSTER Based upon "My Posse Don't Do Homework" by LOUANNE JOHNSON
Screenplay: RONALD BASS Produced by DON SIMPSON and JERRY BRUCKHEIMER Directed by JOHN A. SMITH

DON SIMPSON JERRY BRUCKHEIMER
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UPCOMING GREAT SHOWS!

George Benson & Roberta Flack - 8/30 • Boyz II Men - 9/9

BUSINESS

Affirmative action is still alive and well

BUSINESS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

NEWARK—Using Effective Marketing Techniques To Best Your Competition and Increase Your Profitability workshop at Newark International Airport, Building 79 Brown Room from 9 a.m. to noon. For more info call 201-961-4278 or fax 201-961-4282.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—Middlesex Chapter NIAWBO Summer Membership Gathering from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 908-721-5530.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

SOMERSET—Somerset County Chamber of Commerce Business Card Exchange at the Ramada Inn. Call 908-725-1552.

SEPTEMBER 16, 17

RICHMOND, VA—Front Line Editing Workshop at The Time-Dispatch's Hanover Production Center. For more info call 317-653-3333 or Fax 317-653-4631.

SEPTEMBER 18-20

NEW YORK—Second Annual Circulation Management Conference and Expo at the Manhattan Corporate Plaza. For more info call 212-975-0730.

SEPTEMBER 19-24

WASHINGTON, DC—CBC Week sponsored by the congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. Call 202-675-6730.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

BRIDGEWATER—Breakfast with Goliath Returns, meet one on one with purchasing agents from large area corporations, sponsored by the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce. Call 908-725-1552.

LINCROFT—Trade Financing for Exporters Only sponsored by Eximbank, U.S. SBA, NISBDO and NJEDA at Brookdale Community College. Call 201-645-3830.

VIENNA, VA—Recent Changes in Government Procurement Policies and Regulations, sponsored by the Latin American Management Association. Call 202-546-3803.

NEW YORK—Destination MBA, free seminar for college student, at NY Marriot Financial Center Hotel from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Call 609-987-0028.

OCTOBER 2-12

ATTENTION—How To Be Tough As Nails! Negotiator one-day seminar at various locations in the tri-state area from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 1-800-821-3919.

OCTOBER 18, 19

NEWARK—Sixth Annual Export Matchmaker '95 Trade Fair & Conference at the Radisson Hotel. For more info call 201-242-8237, ext. 223 or Fax 201-824-6587.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

SOMERSET—The '95 Mid-Atlantic Business Expo at the Garden State Exhibit Center. For more info call 908-725-1552.

EAST ORANGE—In spite of what has occurred on the national level regarding affirmative action policy, the city of East Orange remains committed to the policy's basic goals and tenets of ensuring equal employment and business opportunity to its citizens. Mayor Carden Cooper said, "My administration will not abandon its philosophy that every citizen is entitled to equal opportunity in employment and business development. We will continue to promote and enforce the city's affirmative action agenda."

The mayor said that while the Supreme Court's recent decision presents somewhat of a setback for federal programs, "East Orange will strictly adhere to our procedures as outlined in the city ordinance."

United States congressman for District 10, Donald M. Payne said, "As chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, I am pleased that the President has asserted his continued support of affirmative action. I am also encouraged that East Orange is unwavering in its commitment and that Mayor Cooper recognizes the need to maintain this vital equal opportunity program."



Pictured on the construction site at City Hall are (l to r) Willie Hampton, Ted R. Green, Jr., East Orange affirmative action officer, Pete Ward, Ward and O'Donnell Construction Company, Michael Lawrence and Amos Walker.

city's affirmative action policy. While my goal is to encourage voluntary compliance, it is my job to enforce it," he noted.

Green noted most of the contractors he deals with understand that in order to do business with East Or-

ange city government, they must afford job opportunities to East Orange residents. Green said the city's current affirmative action policy mandates a 25 percent set-aside for subcontractors and 50 percent for minority participation on a project.

"I can understand their contractors' reluctance to hire unknown workers and prefer to draw from their own resources," said Green. "However, we have a ready labor pool of qualified local residents eager to put their acquired skills to work," Green said that on some occasions residents hired under the affirmative action program have been offered permanent employment by the developer, contractor or sub-contractor at the project's completion.

Currently there are two city-sponsored projects underway that are providing job opportunities for East Orange residents. One resident, Amos Walker is working as a laborer at the construction site of a 42 unit low-to-moderate income residence for senior citizens at North Orton Parkway. He is one of three workers at East Orange City Hall where the plaza in front of

the municipal building is undergoing extensive renovation.

The East Orange resident and father of three young girls said affirmative action is key to minorities getting "a piece of the pie." Walker who has worked on previous city-sponsored projects including the apartment building at 57-73 South Walnut Street said, "I feel good that I'm doing something to help the city and proud that one day I can bring my children and grandchildren to City Hall and say, 'I helped to build this.' He added that he hopes to sharpen his skills and continue in the construction field.

Willie Hampton, a long time city resident has been a member of the AFL-CIO Local 502 for over 26 years. He says that he got his assignment through his union with working with Ted Green. Hampton said "Affirmative action helps everyone, not only union members but also on the street who just need a chance to prove themselves."

Michael Lawrence, a native of St. Thomas, said "Affirmative action is a good thing and by helping the residents get jobs, makes East Orange a better place to live in."

IMBC participates in trade commerce forum

DENVER—The International Minority Business Corporation (IMBC) was among the 1,200 participants representing 34 countries in the Western Hemisphere, that attended the conference on trade and commerce issues, which took place in Denver, CO, from June 30 to July 2. Convened by the U.S. Department of Commerce and headed by Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, trade ministers, government officials along with business leaders from the private sector were among the attendees of the three-day conference.

Roger E. Hinton, president and CEO of the IMBC, said that it was an inspiring experience and that he was very grateful for the invitation from Secretary Brown, to attend the conference. Hinton said that apart from being able to represent his organiza-

tion's interest, meeting the movers and shakers of trade and commerce from governments and the private sectors of so many countries, the feeling of being a part of history in the making, it was what he came away with most etched in his mind.

Thirty-four trade and commerce ministers, including Secretary Brown, signed the "Denver Declaration" that sets a framework in which a Western Hemisphere free trade zone will be established by the year 2005. It will have an estimated 850 million consumers.

Some of the important areas discussed at the forum were telecommunications, small business, and the parity for smaller nations in entering open markets. Many smaller nations like Jamaica and Trinidad voiced their concern regarding big countries like the United States, Canada and the European Community, providing free

and open access to their markets as they expect from the small nations.

The importance of small business in the economic life of most countries was a major focus. And calls were made by many, both inside and outside of governments, for the establishing of a financing and development institution to serve the formation and expansion of small business in all the countries in the region.

The Commerce Department also held a special seminar, "Beyond Borders" focusing on the enormous commercial opportunities in the Big Emerging Markets that includes three countries in the Americas—Mexico, Brazil and Argentina.

Hinton stated that what is of extreme importance to him is the preparing of the minority-and-women owned businesses comprising of the IMBC's membership, for the establishing of direct trade links with businesses and governments from the countries which attended the forum. He sees it as the IMBC's duty to work with its constituency in gathering and disseminating information about the products and services in other countries.

For example, Hinton sees no reason why minority owned businesses in New York or New Jersey, should not be major importers and distributors of papayas, mangoes and pineapples from Jamaica or Haiti; jewelry from Guyana or Trinidad; or lumber from Belize or Honduras. Or for a minority-owned company to be exporting entertainment software to Mexico or Brazil.

Hinton plans to have the IMBC present and "very much involved" in the next summit which is scheduled for March 1996 in Bogota, Colombia.

"We are preparing ourselves to be very instrumental in making this a reality, and for us to benefit from what this will all mean," he stated. The IMBC was founded in 1992, as an advocacy organization for small, minority and women owned businesses to become more involved in international commerce.

Kodak hosts minority supplier internship for South African managers

ROCHESTER, NY—A group of South African purchasing and business development managers are visiting Eastman Kodak Company and five other U.S. corporations for a two-week internship on how to develop and implement minority supplier programs.

The internship is being offered to South African corporations that have been directed by President Nelson Mandela's government to open their businesses to black and Indian-owned suppliers. The internship is the last of a three-phase program that started in September 1994.

To comply with this request, the companies faced a number of challenges. What programs could they implement to ensure they would identify historically underutilized suppliers? And what opportunities should they offer to those suppliers? What training would their buyers require?

Last year, the Black Integrated Commercial Support Network with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) approached six U.S. corporations affiliated with the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) and asked for help.

Kodak's internship was organized by James Sutton, the company's director of minority/women supplier and dealer programs and member of the NMSDC board of directors.

"Kodak has a world class minority supplier program," Sutton says. "Now we're offering it as a model to

South African corporations. We visited South Africa twice to present strategic and tactical approaches to this kind of purchasing program and we taught them how to educate upper management, evaluate their current suppliers and identify suppliers they had previously overlooked," said Sutton.

The visiting South Africans are divided into six groups with three members, who will visit a different U.S. city.

Sutton says the Mandela government initiative, part of its Reconstruction Development Plan, is a business, rather than a social program. "South Africa's economy is now opened to foreign competition. To survive, South African corporations must take advantage of every available resource. Equally as important, they have to stimulate their country's economy. If they can economically empower new businesses, they will create new markets for their products and services," he stated.

The visiting South Africans will convene in Chicago to share information about their respective hosts' programs and identify best practices.

"These corporations realize it makes good business sense to open their purchasing programs to new suppliers. But many needed help getting started. I'm glad we had this opportunity to provide them with proven supplier development examples," Sutton concluded.

Minority breakfast for small/women entrepreneurs

NEW YORK—The U.S. General Services Administration is sponsoring a Minority Business Breakfast and networking opportunity for small/minority/women entrepreneurs on Tuesday, August 15 at Stark's Ve-randa Restaurant in Manhattan.

Breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. and at 9:15 a.m., the meeting will begin to introduce the speakers. Speakers are allowed two minutes each for formal presentation and are encouraged to exchange cards and literature at the conclusion of the meeting.

Approximately eighty-two speakers will be presented at each meeting. Speakers are selected on a first come basis from requests received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Everyone who is interested as individuals, large businesses, governmental representatives, etc. is encouraged to attend.

To attend RSVP no later than August 11 (Space limited to 100 attendees). For additional information please call Carolyn Schreiber at 212-264-1234

Glory Foods buys farm to control its product

BETHUNE, SC—Glory Foods, the popular line of canned soul food products, is buying a farm in Bethune, SC to grow and control the production of its own greens. According to Bill Williams, Glory's president and co-founder, controlling production is a way of taking the company to a new level.

He says with the new 800-acre farm he can grow the greens product the way Glory's customers like them, with no stems. Glory, based in Columbus, OH, uses black farmers who are members of the Federation of Southern Cooperative Fund. It markets 22 canned food products through numerous supermarket chains nationwide.

NJN announces expansion of business outreach and news coverage

TRENTON—The New Jersey Channel, NJN, continues to expand its outreach to the state's business community with the appointment of Penni E. Wild as director of Business Program Initiatives and additional steps to increase coverage of business news.

Bradenburg NJN's chief of business news, George M. Taber, editor of Business, New Jersey's Business Newspapers, will host an on-air daily business update. In another development, Richard J. Forney, who a decade ago was NJN's first business correspondent on the nightly news, has returned to the network.

NJN Executive Director Elizabeth G. Christopherson, in announcing Wild's new role, stressed its significance. "Penni Wild will make a contribution to efficiency and productivity in New Jersey as she works with both the business community and government agencies. She will explore opportunities for NJN to deliver services through the use of video technology in such areas as employee training and company communications."

Wild most recently served as director of development for Small Business and Women and Minority Business in the New Jersey Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

Christopherson applauded the special qualifications that both Taber and Forney bring to NJN's coverage of business news. "George Taber, is highly respected for his insights concerning business conditions in New Jersey. His new program, 'New Jersey Business Update,' will take the form of a one-minute brief, to be aired daily in prime time. Forney brings with him a new perspective in business programming with both commercial and public broadcasting. He has been producer of a live daily business program on CBS Radio, chief of news information services at Minnesota Public Radio and, most recently, executive producer of CNN's business programming," said Christopherson.

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2. To get or reach by exertion; attain; gain

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PART 1 - BIDDING AND CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
INVITATION TO BID
HEALTH UNIT ROOF REPLACEMENT
AREA 7000 AREA 7001
516 WATCHING AREA
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY
The Township of Plainfield will receive sealed bids for construction of the above project on 8/10/95, on Tuesday, August 28, 1995, at the Office of the President, 516 Watchdog Avenue, Plainfield, New Jersey, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bids are solicited for one single window detail covering all work required in accordance with the drawings and specifications prepared by Widener Associates/Architects, 30 East Front Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Bid documents may be obtained at the office of the architect upon deposit of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) in the form of check or bank draft. Payment to the Office of Widener Associates/Architects. The deposit will be returned to bidders upon return of the documents, complete and in good condition, within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of bids. Contractors who fail to submit bids or to return documents within the ten (10) calendar day period will forfeit their entire deposit.

Bids shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of the contract documents as set forth in the bid form. Bid proposals must be accompanied by a bid bond, certified check or bank draft made payable to the owner in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the base bid.

Bidders must submit evidence of bidder's qualifications, giving their experience records in constructing the type of improvements embodied in the project.

Bidders shall submit evidence of ownership, corporate or partnership documents, state names and addresses of shareholders or partners and the names and addresses of all persons or entities who have a financial interest in the project.

Bidders shall submit non-collusion affidavit stating that they have not entered into a collusion agreement with any other person.

In accordance with provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:5-3, bidders are placed on notice of contract compliance with the following minimum standards and specifications for the 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 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Religion in schools

Continued from page 1

country would go way up?" asked President Clinton.

The President stated that he understands that even the discussion of religion raises the emotional levels of many in this country, and that is why he believes it is important to be tolerant of the many faiths that make up America.

"...Don't you also believe that if for the last 200 years we had had a state governed religion, people would be bored with it, that they would think it had been compromised by politicians, shaved around the edges, im-

posed on people who didn't really consent to it, and we wouldn't have 250,000 houses of worship in America?"

"...Every great religion teaches honesty and trustworthiness and responsibility and devotion to family, and charity and compassion toward others," he continued.

The Departments of Justice and Education have prepared a list of principles which apply to religious expressions in schools. The list includes:

1. Student prayer and religious discussion: The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment does not prohibit purely private religious speech by students. Students, therefore, have the same right to engage in individual or group discussion about religion during the school day as they do in other comparable activities.

2. Graduation prayer and baccalaureates: Under current Supreme Court decisions, school officials may not mandate or organize prayer at graduation, nor organize religious baccalaureate ceremonies.

3. Official neutrality regarding religious activity: Teachers and school administrators, when acting in those capacities, are representatives of the state and are prohibited by the Establishment Clause from soliciting or encouraging religious activity, and from participating in such activity with students.

4. Teaching about religion: Public schools may not provide religious instruction, but may teach about religion, including the Bible or other scripture, the history of religion, comparative religion, The Bible (or other scripture) as literature, and the role of religion in the history of the United States and other countries are all permissible public school subjects.

5. Student assignments: Students may express their beliefs about religion in the form of homework, art work, and other written and oral assignments free of discrimination based on the religious content of their submissions.

6. Religious literature: Students have a right to distribute religious

literature to their schoolmates on the same terms as they are permitted to distribute other literature that is unrelated to school curriculum or activities.

7. Religious excusals: Subject to applicable state laws, schools enjoy substantial discretion to excuse individual students from lessons that are objectionable to the student or the student's parents on religious or other conscientious grounds.

8. Released times: Subject to applicable state laws, schools have the discretion to dismiss students to off-premises religious instruction, provided that schools do not encourage or discourage participation or penalize those who do not attend. Schools may not allow religious instruction by outsiders on school premises during the school day.

9. Teaching values: Though schools must be neutral with respect to religion, they may play an active role with respect to teaching civic values and virtue, and the moral code that holds a community together.

10. Student garb: Students may display religious messages on items of clothing to the same extent that they are permitted to display other comparable messages. Religious messages may not be singled out for suppression, but rather are subject to the same rules as generally apply to comparable messages.

President Clinton stated that public school districts and officials throughout the country should be informed, by the start of the coming school year of the 10 principles regarding religion in schools.

Scholarships available for blacks

HAMPTON, VA.—The 1995 Scholarship Directory: The Minority Guide to Scholarships and Financial Aid is now available from Tinsley Communications of Hampton, Va. The price is \$4.98. Interested parties should call Cleve Dye at 804-723-4499.

Celebrating our heritage through art

by Julian K. Robinson

The most enjoyable and memorable part of my 16 years of service as a commissioner of the New Jersey Highway Authority has been my involvement, since 1987, with the annual Festival of the Arts and Heritage of African Americans. After the preceding decade of sporadic unsuccessful efforts to organize a state-wide festival, it took the vision and dedicated perseverance of community activist Clinton Crocker and a committee of dynamic volunteers to finally put it together.

The result was the first Festival of the Arts and Heritage of Black Americans, held at Holmdel's Garden State Arts Center on September 17, 1988. Prior to its second year in 1989, the name was changed and has remained "Festival of the Arts and Heritage of African Americans."

According to festival founder and permanent president Crocker, "I had, for a number of years envisioned an African-American festival of the magnitude and scope of those eight or nine other ethnic festivals hosted annually at the Garden State Arts Center by the Cultural Fund of the New Jersey Highway Authority."

Crocker's background credentials obviously proved ideal for the task. He was able to draw on his extensive experience in the arts, including professional service at both the Arts Center and at Rutgers' Mason Gross School of the Arts. Under his chairmanship and expert guidance during the first two years, the initial festival committee was successful in laying a foundation on which their successors have skillfully built an annual presentation of the beauty and artistry of African-American culture.

Success apparently does indeed

breed success, as reflected in attendance this far at seven festivals. Beginning with 5,000 spectators in 1988, that figure has more than doubled to a still climbing average of 12,000. And this year's eighth annual event on September 16 promises to set a new record in numbers.

Moreover, the high quality of leadership of the first two festivals has been matched by the general chairpersons of the succeeding six events. E. Tonya Greenwood in 1990 and 1991; Ronald Mathis in 1992 and 1993; Sharon Brown in 1994; and Carol Washington this year.

Typically, the day-long festival activities constitute a family event, offering something for everyone. Included are the performing arts, an art exhibit, fashion show, activities for children, food and non-food sales areas, an arts and crafts exhibit, and other exhibits designed to inform and enrich the public perception of many aspects of African-American culture.

In addition to providing scholarships for academically talented college-bound students identified by the committee throughout New Jersey, festival profits also support Cultural Fund programs for senior citizens and disadvantaged youth held each year at the Arts Center throughout the spring and summer.

In the area of the performing arts, the festivals have presented a wide and diverse variety, including soloists, small ensembles and large groups performing popular, jazz, rap and gospel music. Due to popular demand, a special gospel show was instituted in 1994. Various dance acts, including touring ensembles from Africa, have been presented; and storytelling in the African tradition has become a popular feature. Theatrical vignettes have also

been presented.

As a family event, the festival offers an extensive youth program, providing all-day activities such as storytelling, face-painting, sack and three-legged races, football toss, tug-of-war and foot races. Waldo the Clown is on hand throughout the day, delighting children of all ages.

One of the festival's most popular features is the art exhibit, providing for accomplished artists a showcase for their drawings, paintings, sculpture and photography. In 1992, the African exhibit and Don Miller's Martin Luther King mural were presented on loan from the Newark Museum.

As already indicated, the '95 festival, promises to be the best and biggest yet. With sound systems and recorded music provided by New World Sound, Inc. and Dr. Boogie, live performances will include popular jazz, Nigerian dancers, Rhythm and Blues, rap and reggae.

An added highlight this year will be a presentation by the Crossroads Theatre Company, celebrating its 18th season as one of the country's premier African-American theatre companies and a leader in today's regional theatre movement.

For ticket information call 908-442-9200 or 908-229-9398.

Emergency funds

Continued from page 1

they shrug their shoulders and say they don't know," he said. "But they do know."

Congressman Payne continued, "I believe it is morally wrong to turn our backs on those in need at a time when we are talking about giving tax breaks to those who are financially comfortable."

According to a report by NESF, the administrators of the local Emergency Food and Shelter bank, 224,862 people in Newark and Essex County combined received meals through the program in 1994. A total of 9,731 nights of shelter were provided, 212 family units obtained rental assistance and 111 received public utilities help.

Quote of the week

The 1990s are different from the '50s and '60s. The new segregation of the '90s is between the educated haves and the uneducated havenots.

—Dr. Manning Marable.

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cupied dwelling in one of the counties shown in the listing below. Private mortgage insurance (PMI) is required on loans over 80% of our appraised value.

To make it even easier to gain approval, Hudson City will apply less rigid qualifying standards and lack of an established credit history will not disqualify you—provided, of course, you can prove your credit worthiness and ability to repay the debt.

To apply, phone the Mortgage Origination Department at 201-967-1900 or 609-428-2740. Your new home may be just a phone call away!

TO QUALIFY, APPLICANT'S INCOME CANNOT EXCEED THE FIGURES LISTED BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPERTY YOU INTEND TO PURCHASE IS LOCATED.

Bergen	\$42,160	Monmouth	\$36,320
Burlington	\$33,120	Morris	\$39,520
Camden	\$33,120	Ocean	\$36,320
Essex	\$39,520	Passaic	\$42,160
Gloucester	\$33,120	Somerset	\$43,680
Hudson	\$28,240	Union	\$39,520
Middlesex	\$43,680	Warren	\$30,880

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